



Rural District of Holderness.

Annual Report

ON THE

**HEALTH, SANITARY ADMINISTRATION
AND HOUSING CONDITIONS**

OF THE

RURAL DISTRICT

For the Year 1943.



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Beverley:

WRIGHT & HOGGARD, PRINTERS, MINSTER PRESS.

Public Health Committee.

Chairman of Council: Councillor G. WRIGHT, J.P.

Deputy-Chairman of Council: Councillor F. J. ADDISON.

Chairman of Committee: Councillor J. THORNTON.

Deputy-Chairman: Councillor F. J. ADDISON.

Councillor G. A. ATKINSON.

„ G. S. ATKINSON.

„ R. C. CONNOR.

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„ A. W. HEMINGWAY.

„ F. G. HILL.

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„ J. JOHNSTON.

„ G. KIRBY.

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„ W. MALTAS.

„ J. E. NICHOLSON.

„ T. F. PARKER.

„ T. ROBINSON.

„ F. WOOD.

Public Health Staff.

Medical Officer of Health: F. R. CRIPPS, M.D., D.P.H., etc.

Sanitary Inspector: J. A. ANDREWS, M.Inst.M. & C.E.

Additional Sanitary Inspector: L. KIRBY, A.R.San.I.

RURAL DISTRICT OF HOLDERNESS.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

COUNCIL OFFICES,

SKIRLAUGH,

HOLDERNESS,

June, 1944.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health
and Housing Committee.*

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you the eighth Annual Report on the Health, Sanitary Administration, and Housing conditions for the year 1943.

Owing to the War, only a very brief résumé of the year's work will be given.

The **birth rate** of 17.0 per 1,000 population is exactly the same as last year.

The **death rate** is 11.35 per 1,000 population, an increase of 2.0 per 1,000 on last year's figure. The death rate for England and Wales is 12.1.

The **infant mortality rate** of 42 is nearly half as high again as last year's figure of 31. The usual rate for the East Riding is about 50.

The estimated population in 1943 was 18,230, a decrease of 770.

The incidence of **infectious disease** was appreciably greater this year, 521 cases being notified, as compared with 136 last year. The difference is entirely due to the increased incidence of measles, 401 cases being notified this year as against 61 last year. The epidemic was not of a severe type, but there was one death.

School Closure. No schools were closed as the result of infectious disease.

Diphtheria Immunisation. The high percentage of school children immunised during the Council's pioneer work in this field of Public Health Service has been fully maintained and improved upon.

Over 92% of school children from 5 to 15 years have now been immunised.

Sanitation. All villages were brought under the scavenging scheme during the year, but no extensive new works were carried out.

Some complaints have been received from Land Drainage Commissioners to the effect that the outfall of some of our sewers were badly polluting their drainage. The nuisances were, in all cases, successfully abated for the time being, but Sewerage Schemes for the larger villages must be an urgent post-war necessity.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

Francis R. Cripps.

SUMMARY OF THE REPORT for the Year 1943.

Average height above sea level	25 feet.
Area of Holderness Rural District	129,336 acres.
Population, estimated	18,230
Population, 1942, estimated by Registrar-General	19,000
Estimated excess of births over deaths	103
Number of houses occupied at end of 1943 (including hutments)	5,785
Rateable value	£86,653
Sum represented by a penny rate	£362 7s. 0d.

Births.

	Total.	Males.	Females.	1942.
Legitimate	283 ...	156 ...	127 ...	297
Illegitimate	27 ...	14 ...	13 ...	25
Birth rate per 1,000 population	17			17
Still Births—Legitimate	— ...	— ...	— ...	7
„ „ —Illegitimate	— ...	— ...	— ...	1

Deaths.

From Puerperal Causes:—

No. 29.—From Puerperal Sepsis	Nil
No. 30.—Other Maternal causes	Nil
Total	Nil

	Total.	Males.	Females.	1942.
Deaths	207 ...	116 ...	91 ...	179
Death rate per 1,000 population	11.35			9.4
Infant Mortality Deaths	13 ...	10 ...	3 ...	10
Infant Mortality Death rate per 1,000 live births	42	31
Infant Mortality Legitimate Death rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	46	39.3
Infant Mortality Illegitimate Death rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil	40

			1942.
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	1	...	<i>Nil</i>
.. .. Whooping Cough	1	...	<i>Nil</i>
.. .. Diarrhoea (under 2)	<i>Nil</i>	...	2
.. .. Diphtheria (all ages)	<i>Nil</i>	...	<i>Nil</i>
Death rate per 1,000 population—			
Pulmonary Tuberculosis (5)	0·27	...	0·22
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis (3)	0·16	...	0·05
Notifiable Infectious and Epidemic Diseases (2) (excluding Tubercu- losis, Pneumonia and Puerperal Sepsis)	0·11	...	1·00
Heart Disease (49)	2·7	...	1·89
Respiratory Diseases (9)	0·49	...	0·31
Pneumonia (4)	0·22	...	0·31
Cancer (21), Males 15, Females 6 ...	1·1	...	2·00
Influenza (6)	0·32	...	0·05

Infectious Diseases.

There were 136 cases notified, as follows:—

	1943.	(1942.)
Scarlet Fever	26	... (26)
Diphtheria	2	... (4)
Typhoid Fever	<i>Nil</i>	... (<i>Nil</i>)
Pneumonia	22	... (10)
Puerperal Sepsis	2	... (1)
Whooping Cough	64	... (31)
Measles	401	... (61)
Erysipelas	4	... (3)

DEATHS. The principal causes of death are, as usual, Heart Disease (49), Cancer (21), and Cerebral Hæmorrhage (20), other circulatory diseases (14), all respiratory diseases (13), and they account for more than half the total number of deaths, with Heart Disease causing one death in every four; Cancer and Cerebral Hæmorrhage each causing one death in ten.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area.

There is no change since last year.

Population.

As estimated by the Registrar-General is 18,230, a loss of 770 over last year.

Rateable Value.

The rateable value of the District is £86,653, and a penny rate produces £362 7s. 0d. The general rate for 1943-44 is 10/- in the £.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.

The number of live births registered in the district was 310. 170 of these were males, and 140 females. This figure shows a decrease of 12 births compared with last year's total of 322 (165 males and 157 females).

Illegitimate Births.

27 of the 310 live births registered were illegitimate, 14 males and 13 females. This is two more than in the previous year.

Births, Marriages and Deaths.

The birth rate, which has consistently declined since the end of the 19th Century, and which has lately been causing justifiable alarm and concern, has risen appreciably over the last three years, and the rate for the whole country for 1943 of 16.5 per 1,000 is the biggest recorded since 1928. Unfortunately, as we shall see, this high rate does not remove much of the anxiety over our dwindling population.

The Registrar-General's returns for 1943 give for the first time a very important addition to Vital Statistics figures.

This additional information is the reproduction rates for each of the last ten years expressed as an inverse proportion or percentage of the number of girl babies born in a given year to the number of girls who will subsequently be born from them if the same rate of reproduction holds. The reproduction rate in the seven years before the war varied between 0.75 and 0.8; therefore taking a generation of 30 years as a unit of reproductive activity, it means that our population declines by 0.25 to 0.2, i.e., about a quarter to one-fifth every 30 years. A very poor look-on for Great Britain at the end of the 20th Century.

The reproduction rate has risen to .9 in 1943, and if the recent rate of increase continued, we could hope for a reproduction rate of 1 or a little over and the decline of population would be arrested.

Unfortunately, as noted above, there are signs that this increased rate of fertility is nothing more than a result of that phase of this war which began in 1941, i.e., an increase in the marriage rate, due to war, coupled with a second fact, that of the illegitimacy rate among live births, which was 16 per 1,000 above the average for the preceding five years.

This, together with the increase in Venereal Disease, is one of the worst aspects of the war, with far-reaching deleterious post-war effects on the birth rate and reproduction rate of the nation.

DEATH RATES.

The principal causes of death and their rates per 1,000 people are as under:—

Disease.	Male.	Female.	1943.	Rate.	1942.
Heart Disease	24 ...	25 ...	2.7	...	1.89
Cancer	15 ...	6 ...	1.1	...	2.0
Cerebral Hemorrhage	10 ...	10 ...	1.1	...	0.95
Other Circulatory Diseases.	5 ...	9 ...	0.76	...	0.68
Respiratory Diseases	10 ...	3 ...	0.71	...	0.63
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	3 ...	2 ...	0.27	...	0.16
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	1 ...	2 ...	0.16	...	0.05
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth ...	8 ...	3 ...	0.6	...	0.25
Principal Epidemic Diseases—					
Diphtheria	0 ...	0 ...	Nil	...	Nil
Influenza	2 ...	4 ...	0.32	...	0.05
Puerperal Sepsis	0 ...	0 ...	Nil	...	Nil
Typhoid Fever	0 ...	0 ...	Nil	...	Nil
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0 ...	0 ...	Nil	...	Nil

Deaths among children under one year.

For 1943, 13 infants died, 10 males and 3 females, giving a mortality rate of .42 per 1,000 live births. Of these, none were illegitimate. Of the 13 deaths, 3 males and 1 female died from premature birth, and 5 males and 2 females from congenital malformation and birth injury.

We see that 11 out of the 13 infantile deaths were due to causes operating shortly after birth.

It would appear that the reduction of infantile mortality, on which such great store is set, is misleading. The reduction only appears to take place after the first month. The number of deaths in infants up to the 1st week has not changed appreciably, and it is here where future research and study should be focussed.

It would be a great help if future returns from the Registrar General gave the deaths of infants in weeks up to the first month, and then monthly or quarterly to the first year. Then we should be able to gauge the progress in the reduction of Infantile Mortality much more accurately.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act.

There were 3 deaths due to epidemic diseases, 1 due to Whooping Cough, 1 to Measles and 1 to Infantile Paralysis.

There were 521 cases of infectious diseases notified:—

	Notified cases.		Case rate		Deaths.		Death rate	
	1943.	(1942.)	per 1,000		per 1,000		per 1,000	
			population.				population.	
Scarlet Fever	26	(26)	...	1.37	...	Nil	...	Nil
Diphtheria	2	(4)	...	0.11	...	Nil	...	Nil
Typhoid Fever	Nil	(Nil)	...	Nil	...	Nil	...	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia.	2	(1)	...	0.11	...	Nil	...	Nil
Pneumonia	22	(10)	...	1.15	...	4	...	0.22
Erysipelas	4	(3)	...	0.22	...	Nil	...	Nil
Whooping Cough..	64	(31)	...	3.5	...	1	...	0.05
Measles	401	(61)	...	22.0	...	1	...	0.05
Pulmonary Tuberculosis...	15	(16)	...	0.84	...	5	...	0.16

Small Pox.

No case was notified during the year.

Typhoid Fever.

No case was notified. As the Holderness District is well supplied with pure water in every parish, Typhoid Fever should be a disease of the past, except in those isolated farms to which it is economically difficult to take a water supply.

Scarlet Fever.

26 cases were notified. Of these, 9 were removed to the County Isolation Hospital. One death occurred.

Diphtheria.

2 cases were notified. No deaths occurred.

Tuberculosis.

During 1943, 22 new cases of Tuberculosis (15 pulmonary and 7 non-pulmonary) were notified, as compared with 22 (16 pulmonary and 6 non-pulmonary) last year.

TUBERCULOSIS CASES NOTIFIED.**NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1943.**

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Male.	Resp. Fem.	Non-Resp. Male.	Fem.	Male.	Resp. Fem.	Non-Resp. Male.	Fem.
0—1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1—5	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
5—15	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1
15—25	3	4	0	1	2	1	0	0
25—35	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
35—45	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	0
45—55	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	1
55—65	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and over	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	7	8	1	6	3	2	1	2
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The efficiency of notification of tuberculosis cases in this area is reasonably good.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

Examination of wells and water supplies has been done in a few isolated cases, chiefly farms and farm cottages. The greater part of the district is now main supplied. All new supplies by main have practically ceased since the emergency, except where it is needed for agricultural and dairy production.

Sewage and Drainage.

Owing to the state of emergency that exists, only sewers requiring urgent attention were dealt with and lengths of renewals were put down as occasion required.

Scavenging.

The combined scavenging and salvage collection of the whole of the district is continuing to prove very satisfactory.

Eradication of Bed-bugs.

No action was necessary.

Milk & Dairies Order.

The District is very largely milk producing, Hull being the principal distributing centre. There are now over 600 registered cowsheds in the Rural area.

The cowsheds have been brought up to a very good standard. All new cowsheds have been constructed to the Inspector's requirements. 185 routine inspections were made during the year.

Meat Inspection and Slaughter Houses.

No slaughtering is now done in this district, but meat being delivered to the butchers is examined both in transit and at the shop. Meat is also inspected when emergency slaughtering occurs.

Housing.

House to house inspection was not possible owing to shortage of staff, the Council only having one officer to cover the whole of the area.

Complaints as to housing defects were dealt with when received.

The erection of 10 new agricultural houses was commenced during the year, but all other new building, apart from minor additions to properties, was at a standstill.

The sites for the Council's first year's post-war programme for the erection of 110 houses were also selected.

